



Seven new CASA volunteers welcomed

Cass County Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program is proud to announce that seven new CASA Volunteers were sworn-in by Judge John Steinheider April 23.

A brief reception followed the ceremony to wish the new CASA Volunteers well in their advocacy for Cass County's abused and neglected children. New CASA volunteers are Karla Bailey, Jean Colbert, Heidi Condrey, Debbie Green, Ed James, Sarah McIntire and Ute McLaughlin.

There are a total of 37 Cass County children who are under the jurisdiction of the court because of abuse and/or neglect. Children range in age from two to 19 years old. Currently, we have ten active CASA volunteers advocating for these children.

CASA volunteers usually work with one case at a time. They get to know the children and write reports for the Judge, making recommendations about what would be best for the child.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED/The Journal
 New Cass County CASA volunteers are, front from left, Ed James, Jean Colbert and Heidi Condrey; and back, Karla Bailey, Sarah McIntire, Debbie Green, Ute McLaughlin and Judge Steinheider.

They become a stable, reliable presence in the child's life during a very difficult time, and advocate for the child to have a safe and permanent home as quickly as possible.

The Cass County CASA program was started in 2005. CASA volunteers are ordinary people doing an extraordinary thing by having an impact on the lives of abused and neglected children. Most volunteers donate about 2 hours per week (or 8 hours a month) and all training is provided. A portion of

the pre-service training expenses were paid for by a grant from the Nebraska CASA Association. If you are interested or want more information, please call or e-mail Angie Neumiller, program director, at 402-296-9520 or director@casscasa.org.